

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 2

Serial No.: 09/919,006

Filing Date: July 31, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 100.216US01

Title: CLAMPING RECEPTACLE

CLAIMS

The claims are as follows:

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1. (Original) A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:
a frame comprising an array of slots, each slot containing one of the circuit cards;
and
a cam selectively engageable with the frame for clamping the circuit cards within the frame.
 2. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the frame is partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition and each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions.
 3. (Original) The receptacle of claim 2, wherein the first sub-frame is movable relative to the second sub-frame and is in slidable contact with the receptacle.
 4. (Original) The receptacle of claim 3, wherein the first partition is in slidable contact with the receptacle.
 5. (Original) The receptacle of claim 4, wherein the cam is engageable with the first sub-frame for sliding the first sub-frame so that circuit cards that are in the first sub-frame contact the first partition and sliding the first partition into contact with the circuit cards of the second sub-frame to clamp the circuit cards contained in the slots of the first sub-frame between the first sub-frame and the first partition and the circuit cards contained in the slots of the second sub-frame between the first partition and the second sub-frame.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 3

Serial No.: 09/919,006

Filing Date: July 31, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 100.216US01

Title: CLAMPING RECEPTACLE

C1
C2

6. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the cam is selected from the group consisting of a pair of cams in tandem, a pair of cams, and two tandem pairs of cams.

7. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the cam is disposed within the receptacle.

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8. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the cam is rotatably attached to the receptacle.

9. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the cam is disposed on a shaft that rotates the cam into and out of engagement with the frame.

10. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the cam comprises a curved surface comprising serrations.

11. (Original) The receptacle of claim 1, wherein the frame comprises a pair of frames, the cam attached to one of the pair of frames and selectively engageable with the other of the pair of frames for clamping the circuit cards within each of the pair of frames.

12. (Original) A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:

at least one frame partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition, each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions, each slot containing one of the circuit cards; and

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**PAGE 4**

Serial No.: 09/919,006

Filing Date: July 31, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 100.216US01

Title: CLAMPING RECEPTACLE

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at least one cam selectively engageable with the first sub-frame to clamp the circuit cards within the at least one frame.

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13. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the at least one cam is selected from the group consisting of a pair of cams in tandem, a pair of cams, and two tandem pairs of cams.

14. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the at least one cam is disposed within the receptacle.

15. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the at least one cam is rotatably attached to the receptacle.

16. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the at least one cam is disposed on a shaft that rotates the at least one cam into and out of engagement with the first sub-frame.

17. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the at least one cam comprises a curved surface comprising serrations.

18. (Original) The receptacle of claim 12, wherein the first sub-frame is movable relative to the second sub-frame and is in slidable contact with the receptacle.

19. (Original) The receptacle of claim 18, wherein the first partition is in slidable contact with the receptacle.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**PAGE 5**

Serial No.: 09/919,006

Filing Date: July 31, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 100.216US01

Title: CLAMPING RECEPTACLE

20. (Original) The receptacle of claim 19, wherein the at least one cam is engageable with the first sub-frame for sliding the first sub-frame so that circuit cards that are in the first sub-frame contact the first partition and sliding the first partition into contact with the circuit cards of the second sub-frame to clamp the circuit cards contained in the slots of the first sub-frame between the first sub-frame and the first partition and the circuit cards contained in the slots of the second sub-frame between the first partition and the second sub-frame.

21. (Original) A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:

at least one frame partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition, each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions, each slot containing one of the circuit cards;

wherein the first sub-frame is movable relative to the second sub-frame and is in slidable contact with the receptacle;

wherein the first partition is in slidable contact with the receptacle; and

at least one cam disposed within the receptacle and rotatably attached to the receptacle, the at least one cam selectively rotatable for selectively engaging the first sub-frame for sliding the first sub-frame so that circuit cards of the first sub-frame contact the first partition and sliding the first partition into contact with the circuit cards of the second sub-frame to clamp the circuit cards contained in the slots of the first sub-frame between the first sub-frame and the first partition and the circuit cards contained in the slots of the second sub-frame between the first partition and the second sub-frame.

22. (Original) The receptacle of claim 21, wherein the at least one cam is selected from the group consisting of a pair of cams in tandem, a pair of cams, and two tandem pairs of cams.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 6

Serial No.: 09/919,006

Filing Date: July 31, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 100.216US01

Title: CLAMPING RECEPTACLE

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(124)

23. (Original) The receptacle of claim 21, wherein the at least one cam is disposed on a shaft that rotates the at least one cam into and out of engagement with the first sub-frame.

24. (Original) A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:

121

first and second frames, each of the first and second frames partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition, each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions, each slot containing one of the circuit cards; and

at least one cam disposed between the first and second frames, the at least one cam rotatably attached to the first frame and adapted to engage the second frame to exert a force on each of the first and second frames for clamping the circuit cards within the first and second frames.

25. (Original) The receptacle of claim 24, wherein the at least one cam is selected from the group consisting of a pair of cams in tandem, a pair of cams, and two tandem pairs of cams.

26. (Original) The receptacle of claim 24, wherein the at least one cam is disposed on a shaft that is rotatably attached to the first frame, the shaft rotating the at least one cam into and out of engagement with the second frame.

27. (Original) The receptacle of claim 24, wherein the at least one cam comprises a curved surface comprising serrations.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 7

Serial No.: 09/919,006

Filing Date: July 31, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 100.216US01

Title: CLAMPING RECEPTACLE

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28. (Original) The receptacle of claim 24, wherein the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames is movable relative to the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames and is in slidable contact with the receptacle.

29. (Original) The receptacle of claim 28, wherein the first partition of each of the first and second frames is in slidable contact with the receptacle.

30. (Original) The receptacle of claim 29, wherein the force exerted on the first and second frames slides the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames so that circuit cards of the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames contact the first partition of each of the first and second frames and slides the first partition of each of the first and second frames into contact with the circuit cards of the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames to clamp the circuit cards contained in the slots of the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames between the first sub-frame and the first partition of each of the first and second frames and the circuit cards contained in the slots of the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames between the first partition and the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames.

31. (Original) The receptacle of claim 24, wherein the receptacle is thermally coupled to the housing.

32. (Original) A receptacle for confining circuit cards to different locations within a housing, the receptacle comprising:

first and second frames, each of the first and second frames partitioned into first and second sub-frames by a first partition, each of the first and second sub-frames partitioned into an array of slots by a plurality of second partitions, each slot containing one of the circuit cards;

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 8

Serial No.: 09/919,006

Filing Date: July 31, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 100.216US01

Title: CLAMPING RECEPTACLE

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wherein the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames is movable relative to the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames and is in slidable contact with the receptacle;

wherein the first partition of each of the first and second frames is in slidable contact with the receptacle; and

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at least one cam disposed between the first and second frames, the at least one cam rotatably attached to the first sub-frame of the first frame and is selectively rotatable for to engaging the first sub-frame of the second frame to exert a force on the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames to slide the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames so that circuit cards of the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames contact the first partition of each of the first and second frames and to slide the first partition of each of the first and second frames into contact with the circuit cards of the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames to clamp the circuit cards contained in the slots of the first sub-frame of each of the first and second frames between the first sub-frame and the first partition of each of the first and second frames and the circuit cards contained in the slots of the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames between the first partition and the second sub-frame of each of the first and second frames.

33. (Original) The receptacle of claim 32, wherein the at least one cam is selected from the group consisting of a pair of cams in tandem, a pair of cams, and two tandem pairs of cams.

34. (Original) The receptacle of claim 32, wherein the at least one cam is disposed on a shaft that is rotatably attached to the first sub-frame of the first frame, the shaft rotating the at least one cam into and out of engagement with the first sub-frame of the second frame.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 9

Serial No.: 09/919,006

Filing Date: July 31, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 100.216US01

Title: CLAMPING RECEPTACLE

35. (Original) The receptacle of claim 32, wherein the receptacle is thermally coupled to the housing.

Claims 36-106 (Cancelled)